of the continuous death of a number of Bhopal gas victims every month;

(b) whether Government have made any inquiry to know the adequacy or otherwise of medical facilities being provided to the sufferers; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The Government of Madhya Pradesh have informed that there have been deaths of persons having history of gas exposure

The Government have been keeping close watch on the multifarious measures adopted/being adopted to tackle the health problems of gas victims. Opinion of several experts in the country as well as abroad is that medical facilities being provided to the sufferers, and the line of treatment adopted are correct and best under the circumstances. Government continue to provide all possible help to the State Government from within the country and as received from foreign countries in the shape of equipments, medicines and stores.

The details of the specific medical aid provided to the gas-affected population are as under:—

1. One 30 bedded hospital near Union Carbide factory with X-ray machine, Laboratory and Blood Analysor facilities.

2. Four Special Clinics with X-ray machine and laboratory facilities.

3. Six dispensaries with all facilities working round the clock.

4. Special clinics for affected persons in Medical College Hospital, Maternity Hospital and J.P. Hospital.

5. One 20 bedded Eye Hospital with the cooperation of Royal Commonwealth Society for prevention of Blindness.

Punctuality of trains

*240. SHRI B. KRISHNA MOHAN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing machinery for monitoring the punctuality of trains especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what are the steps being taken to improve the performance of the Godavari Express; and

(c) whether the Godavari Express is likely to be speeded up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The puntuality of Mail/Express trains is being monitored closely on day-to-day basis both at the Divisional and at the zonal level.

(b) The punctuality of Godavari Express has been ranging between 90 and 100 per cent during the last six months. Punctuality is monitored and reviewed on a day-to-day basis.

(c) No, Sir.

Shramik Vidyapeeths

@1719. SHRI M. S. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many 'Shramik Vidyapeeths' have started functioning; and

(b) what are the objectives of these Vidyapeeths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) 30 Shramik Vidyapeeths are functioning in the country.

(b) The Shramik Vidyapeeths are primarily designed as polyvalent adult education centres for workers and their families in urban and industrial areas. The objectives of the Vidyapeeths include organisation of pro-

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 336, transferred from 19th November, 1985.